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MAGAZINE  
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JULY 1979

# VAMPIRELLA

#79



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on a SLOW BOAT to CHINA!





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# VAMPIRELLA

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# Vampi's Scarlet Letters

## WHAT KEEPS PANTHA'S TOP UP? GLUE?

With **VAMPIRELLA** #77, things seem at last to be looking up. I can say this, even though "Shadow of the Dragon" was little more than an introduction to a story. I only hope that Bill Oulby continues to play it straight on this one, and doesn't succumb to the temptation to get cute.

The story had its good points and bad points. Gonzalo Maye's art was certainly everything I could want. His inking style was sharp and detailed with a three-dimensional quality not generally characteristic of his work. Pantha's new hairstyle will make it easier to tell her from VAMPI. But ten pages were barely enough to whet the appetite. Also, it seemed so coincidental to have the Van Heltings and VAMPI et al. arrive simultaneously and unbeknownst in Hong Kong. Unless, that is, it was not really a coincidence. We'll see.

Meanwhile, I can be thankful that those cliffhanger endings have returned.

The closest story to a dud was Nicole Gelf's "Future House Is Not a Home" . . . only because the plot's internal logic was violated at one point. The whole idea hung on the robots not knowing they were not human. But this didn't apply to the robot Miss. Brand on page 52. Otherwise, it was okay.

But the prize for best script goes to Gelf's "The Night the Birds Fell." Horror stories with no supernatural or science-fictional elements are very hard to do successfully in comics, without descending into pure shock. But Gelf managed it. Here was a story that deserves consideration on next year's **Warren Awards** are decided.

While "Weird Wolf" answered affirmatively that there can be a well-written story of only three pages, the main interest was the debut of Jeff Esley. His art was like a combination of early Rich Corben and the late Basil Wolverton. With all that intricate detail, it must take him a week to finish each panel! Incredible.

"Night of the Yell" and "Son of the Seakorn" were run-ups to the best **Warren** standards in both script and art. It's no fault of their creators that they happened to be overshadowed by the Cub and Esley pieces. They were strong enough on their own right to be memorable against such competition. And that's a strong compliment!

Last, but certainly not least, there was the best Barbara Leigh cover yet. Yeah, I know, I've said that before. But you'll still have her to go to beat this one.

BRIAN CADEN  
Cincinnati, Oh.

"Shadow of the Dragon" in **VAMPIRELLA** #77 was, surprisingly enough, the best story of the issue—a refreshing change of pace and locale. I despised these awful stories featuring VAMPI as a Hollywood B Movie Queen. And now that Pantha got her hair cut, we can tell VAMPI and Pantha apart. I really like this new character. Bruce, I just hope he isn't an agent of Chaos or something so he gets wiped out at the end of the next episode.

Russ Heath delivered the best art this issue, but the Michael Reicher script, "The Night of the Yell," was nothing to get excited about.

Nicole Gelf's "The Night the Birds Fell" went by too fast but Maryann Casares' artwork was great, though.

Jonathan Thomas is a very good writer. Although "Slits of the Seakorn," a plot wasn't too hot, Thomas' scripting, dialogue, and characterizations were excellent.

I usually look forward to the **Warren Awards**, but this time I was disappointed. Not by the choices, but by the way the whole thing was presented. It was just too . . . slick, it came off sounding, on the whole, like this: Rich Corben is really dead! Mike McDermott is really nasty! etc., etc. We weren't told why they won this year's honors, like in the past. Previous **Warren Awards** used to be interesting, but not this time.

Gerry Budenz's 3-page "Weird Wolf" was a really fun story. The art by Jeff Esley (who?) was great, and perfect for this sort of tale.

GREG BLAIR  
Emporia, Ks.

We and **VAMPIRELLA** readers deserve better than that! I have collected every **VAMPIRELLA** issue since #1 and, after reading #77, I feel we are getting ripped off! Since VAMPI went to Hollywood, there has been a steady decline in the quality of the stories. Except the VAMPI novel in issue #73.

"The Curse of the Fushie Princess" in #75 was set in Pakistan and #76 was good #77 locates VAMPI, Pantha, the Van Heltings and Pendragon in Hong Kong . . . out of this Hollywood scenario (again). And it features the art work of Gonzalo Maye, who certainly is the equal to Jose Gonzalez. The story, by Bill Oulby, is promising.

So what is my beef? The story ends by saying "to be continued in issue #78." I have to wait a whole month to read on!

CARL SPYRO  
Birmingham, Mich.



I thoroughly enjoyed Jeff Esley's art in "Weird Wolf." I don't think I have ever seen an intellectual yow-wolf before, at least not in **Kalifornia**.

All in all, **VAMPIRELLA** #77 was very good. Hopefully this is a stepping stone to bigger and better things.

JOHN R. LEWIS  
Sakuma, Mich.

I think all VAMPI fans will agree that Gonzalo Maye should be the permanent artist for **VAMPIRELLA**. Boy, is he good! But one thing bothers me. VAMPI hardly seems to be in the magazine. Her name and body are on the cover, so you'd think that she'd be featured in the majority of the magazine. But no! Come on now . . . her stories should be at least 17 pages long!

I enjoyed "Night the Birds Fell" by Maryann Casares and "Weird Wolf" by Jeff Esley and all the other stories, but I think **VAMPIRELLA** should concentrate on VAMPI!

M.A.G.  
Brook, Tx.

I buy two copies of **VAMPIRELLA** each time, one for my mini collection and one for reading. I also buy and collect CHEEZY, ERIE, and 1984 each month. I suspect that they will make a good investment.

Somewhere I read that the readers of **Warren** magazines tend to be younger kids and young adults. But that doesn't keep me from being a great **Warren** fan. I imagine that there are quite a few of us mature adults that enjoy your magazine!

DANEY T. WILSON  
Virginia Beach, Va.

The **VAMPIRELLA** covers have definitely impressed! **VAMPIRELLA** isn't a skin magazine, but its covers are better than Playboy's! #77's was the best yet.

One question: the bottom left panel on page 8, shows Pantha's top. What holds it on and up?

PATRICK KILLIAN  
W. St. Paul, Minn.

Obviously, Patrick, Pantha is wearing one of the costumes borrowed from VAMPI's wardrobe on **Orlando** . . . a planet far more technologically advanced in some respects than Earth. These fabrics appear nothing short of miraculous to us poor humans and their wondrous pneumatic qualities will not be equaled on Earth for centuries to come!

I just got this great idea. Since VAMPI has completed her sojourn in Hollywood why doesn't something good come of it, like a VAMPI movie.

How about a T.A.A.G. Fan Page contest for a new back-up feature. I also have an idea for the ultimate contest: Write your own VAMPI story.

MIKE SOFF  
Erie, Pa.

"Shadow of the Dragon" in #77 was very encouraging. Hong Kong is a refreshing change from Hollywood and, for once the setting is intrinsic to the plot since dragons and Chi are "historically linked." It was so interesting that I didn't even read that VAMPI appeared on only two of the ten pages. The ending however, seemed very abrupt.

The backup stories in this issue were probably the finest that have appeared for quite some time. "Night of the Yell" offered a new and somewhat outrageous twist to the venerable snowman legend, while "Night the Birds Fell" and "Son of the Seakorn" were very offbeat. Character studies like these are all top rate in the **Warren** mags, so two in one issue was a treat. "Weird Wolf," though only three pages long, gave us two new legends: an intelligent werewolf and a trick ending featuring a back-firing gun. And "Future House Is Not a Home" made good use of the "robot who doesn't know he's a robot" idea.

THE MAD MAPLE  
Toronto, Canada

**Vampi's  
Scarlet Letters**  
C/O WARREN PUBLISHING  
145 EAST 32nd STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10016

Your number is legion!



BLACK DEATH SLITHERS THROUGH THE GRAY, ABANDONED WHARF FRONT, THE WARM, LOYING SMELL OF SEWAGE MINGLES AND MIXES WITH THE STENCH OF DECAY AND DEATH, LIKE A FOUL OPIOUS TART.



IT IS THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON IN HONG KONG, WHEN A LEGEND RISES FROM THE SULFURIC DEPTHS OF THE ETHERAL UNDERWORLD TO FEAST UNHINDERED ON THE SWEETMEATS OF HUMANITY.

SEVEN DRUG DEALERS HAVE DIED IN A BLOODY CARNAGE THAT HAS LEFT THEIR BODIES RIPPED AND SHREDDED AS IF THEY HAD BEEN CAUGHT IN A RUNAWAY MEATGRINDER. HONG KONG POLICE HAVE BEEN WITHOUT A CLUE, FEELING CHECKMATED BY A MURDEROUS WRAITH WHILE THE GRISLY GAME CONTINUES TO TAKE ITS TOLL.



YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIKE THIS INSPECTOR. THIS OLD WOMAN CLAIMS SHE WAS BOWLED OVER BY OUR "KILLER DRAGON."

NOT THIS DRAGON... BUT A BIGGER DIFFERENT, FAR MORE TERRIFYING ONE!

WE FEEL THE BITTER PANGS OF FRUSTRATION AND HELPlessness MORE THAN ANY GRAND, CHIEF OF HOMICIDE.



INSTEAD OF HUNTING HIM, MAYBE YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO THIS "DRAGON," INSPECTOR, SO FAR HE'S ENDED THE CAREERS OF SEVEN OF THE COUNTRY'S BIGGEST DRUG DEALERS.

IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH HE WERE A CARNIVOROUS PAWN IN A BLOODY STRUGGLE FOR THE UNDERWORLD NARCOTICS HIERARCHY!



UNAWARE OF THE BRISK RAMPAGE OR EVEN THE PRESENCE OF CONRAD AND ADAM VAN HELSING, WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED IN TO ASSIST THE AUTHORITIES, A DEARABLE WOMAN WITH HER BOOTS MORE IN THE HEAVENS THAN UPON A TROUBLED EARTH, LOOKS FORWARD TO A NIGHT OF FUN AND FRUITY WITH A NEWLY MADE ACQUAINTANCE.

TIME IS YOUR ENEMY, IS IT...? I... I EXPECTED SOMETHING MUCH LESS GRAND.

IF YOU THINK THAT'S GRAND, WAIT 'TIL YOU SEE THE SURPRISE I HAVE FOR YOU AHEAD.

DEPRESSED OVER HAVING WITNESSED ONE OF THE BRISK "DRAGON" SLURRIES, YET INDIGNANT OF THE FLIGHT OF HER FRIENDS, PAMPHILEA BEAUTIFUL VISITS TO EARTH FROM THE PLANET DRAGONMOR, RETREATS TO THE SAFE DECOR OF HER CURRENT SHAFERD'S YACHT AND OVERHEARS A CONVERSATION BETWEEN BELACCO, BRUCE AND THE DRAGON LADY, SHE LEARNS THAT IT IS NOT AS SAFE AS IT ONCE SEEMED.

WHILE YET IN ANOTHER CORNER OF THE FAMOUS SOUTHERN PORT, A RETIRED WARRIOR-VILLAIN IS THE UNENTHUSIASTIC "GUEST" OF A SURLY BUT GARGANTUAN ORIENTAL, UNWISSED IN THE INTRIGUES OF THE QUEEN'S ENGLISH...

THE UNTIMELY DEATHS OF MY COMPETITORS HAS ALL BUT DRIED-UP THE USUALLY PROLIFIC FLOW OF NARCOTICS, MY FRIENDS.

I HAVE THE MERCHANDISE... BUT IT WILL COST YOU TWICE YOUR USUAL PRICE.

THAT... THAT'S ROBBERY!

BELACCO, HE AND THE DRAGON LADY ARE INVOLVED WITH BRUCE! AS SOON AS PAMPHILEA AND JOE RETURN, WE'LL HAVE TO INFORM THE POLICE!

REALLY, SIR, IF ONE DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, ONE MIGHT SUSPECT THAT YOU WERE IN THE BUSINESS OF SHANGHAIING UNSUSPECTING INMATES FOR INVOLUNTARY SEA DUTY.

# SHANGHAIED





IT'S BEAUTIFUL, LOVER, BUT WHY THE TWIN POWER-PLANTS? YOU'VE ENOUGH HORSES THERE TO PUT YOU IN DEBT.

YOU'RE NOT A GUNNER OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, ARE YOU?



WE HA! THEY TOLD ME I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FOOL YOU FOR LONG.

I'M WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, BUT MY CALLER HERE IS REALLY THE PROPERTY OF YOUR BENEVOLENT AND GENEROUS UNCLE SAM.

AND THOSE TWO LARVELETS I WERE DESIGNED TO OUTWIT ANYTHING ON OR UNDER THE SEA.



MY ASSIGNMENT IS TO PUT AN END TO THE SMUGGLING OF HEROIN OUT OF RED CHINA. IN WHICH YOUR FRIEND BELASCO IS HEAVILY INVOLVED.

WHAT?



DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVED THAT FRODOLO BAGGINS WAS A LEGITIMATE MOTION PICTURE PRODUCER? HE HADN'T FINISHED A PICTURE SINCE 1968 AND THAT WAS SUCH A BOMB THEY NEARLY LAUGHED HIM OUT OF HOLLYWOOD.

HE'S BEEN HANGING ABOUT TINSeltown EVER SINCE, SELLING PURE HEROIN, EXPORTED FROM BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN TO HIS JETTY BEVERLY HILLS CLIENTELE.

HE'S BUILT UP QUITE A BUSINESS, BECOMING ONE OF THE RICHEST BUSINESSMEN ON THE COAST.



HOLD ON A SECOND, FLASH. WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME?

THAT YOU'RE SOME KIND OF SUPER AGENT, AND I AM YOUR LATEST ASSIGNMENT?



I SEE. YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU KICK BELASCO TO THE WALL.

AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU MIGHTER DESIGNS ON MY SUCCESSION YOUNG BOOBY.

THAT, TOO, LITTLE FOR. NO ONE EVER SAID WE COULDN'T MIX BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE.























IT IS HORRIBLE, AN IMPOSSIBLE HELLSCAPE CALLED FROM THE DEPTHS OF A MADMAN'S MIND. TO BRUCE  
ON-DAWN AND DELACRO, FIGHTING SUPERORDINARY, IT IS THE PERSONIFICATION OF THEIR MOST DEEPLY  
ROOTED FEARS. A KILLER AND REWARDING CREATURE CALLED NORTH FROM LONG-FORGOTTEN CHILDHOOD  
WASTELANDS. A GIGANTIC, WITH HYPER-POWERED, LEVITATING, AND MENTAL, WITH

HAUGHTY BRUCE!  
YOU'VE MADE SOMEONE  
VERY ANGRY. SOMEONE  
DOESN'T CARE YOU POINT-  
ING GUNS AT HIS FRIEND  
KRAVITZELLE!

GOOD! NOBODY  
DOES! POINT! LET  
IT GET ME  
PLEASE!





MAYBE IF YOU'RE VERY STILL AND STAY IN THAT CORNER UNTIL THE NICE OFFICERS ARRIVE... SOMEBODY WON'T KNOW ALL OVER BRUCE AND BRUCE CAN KEEP ALL OF HIS GUNS AND LEGS... TOO!

WARRIELLA! PLEASE!



WARRIELLA! DON'T LEAVE ME!

YOU'RE RIGHT I DON'T WANT YOU ANYMORE BECAUSE OF YOUR BEARD. MY FRIENDS ARE ABOUT TO BE SOLD INTO SLAVERY.



I ONLY HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE TO SAVE THEM.



BRUCE AND BRUCE TOLD ME EVERYTHING WHILE UNDER HYPODORS... INCLUDING WHERE IT IS THAT BOTH FAYTH AND REN ARE BEING TAKEN!



I'VE NEVER HAD TO FLY SO FAR I MAY HAVE STRENGTH ENOUGH TO MAKE IT!







SEEKING OVER THE BAYT CHAIN  
SEAS, A BAYT, SHALL ALMOST  
WAVE-BLE IN THE COLD BLANKNESS  
AROUND THE CHANGING SEA, STRUGGLING  
WITH EXHAUSTION...



LEATHER WINGS HEAVY AS ANVIL,  
LABOR TO KEEP ALOFT ON THE  
WINDS



THE CREATURE'S SENSES SCRAM  
THAT LAND SAFETY CANNOT BE  
MUCH FURTHER AWAY



BUT DEEP IN HAPPEL... SHE FEELS THE  
PAINING, SHE HAS REACHED CHAINED  
TO THE LIMITS OF HER ENDURANCE



LIKE A LEAD WEIGHT PRESSING FROM  
THE SKY, THE GAIL OF THE STORM  
PUNCHED AS COLLAPSE INTO THE  
CAULDRON OF HER



HER LAST THOUGHT GOES OF MORE IT  
HAIRED, AND CALL, A BATH WITH WHICH  
SHE HAS SHARED MUCH... A MAN SHE  
HAS LOVED LIKE A FATHER TOO MANY  
YEARS WHAT WILL BECOME OF HIM,  
SHE THINKS, AFTER SHE HAS PERISHED,  
LANDING IN THE WIND-LEAVE SEA?





# THE COMIC BOOKS

by Joe Brancatelli

## SO MUCH FOR TRADITIONS

Over the years—27 of them to be exact—Mad has changed from an adult humor comic book to a children's humor magazine, but two seemingly inviolate traditions evolved. Except for some early issues, Mad has never accepted paid advertising even though its huge circulation (about 2 million copies) would command similarly huge rates. Except for paperback books and a self-produced poster or two, Mad has steadfastly refused to license its name or characters for use on products, toys or other gimmicks.

Both traditions have now been violated.

At the annual American Toy Fair in New York recently, Parker Brothers, the "Monopoly" people, announced plans for a new board game called—you guessed it, tradition lovers—"The Mad Magazine Game." Moreover, Parker reported, the game will be advertised on the inside front cover of the October issue of need we write it?—Mad magazine.

The game itself seems to be a pretty fair translation of the magazine. Or, as Parker publicly says, the game concentrates on "zany fun which pokes fun at traditional board games." Players move counter clockwise on a game board studded with such Mad regulars as Spy Vs. Spy, Alfred E. Newman and characters from the strips of Don Martin, Dave Berg and other Mad artists. To win the game, the player is supposed to lose all his "Mad money." The game, which should cost about \$7-\$8, even has an original color drawing by Jack Davis on the box.

Bill Martin, a Parker marketing manager, said at the Toy Fair that Parker approached Mad

with the game on a "totally speculative" basis. "They were wildly enthusiastic about it," he added, explaining how Parker convinced the magazine's hierarchy to break one of its hallowed traditions.

As for the ad in the October issue, Martin refused to disclose how much—if anything—Parker paid for the space, but he did produce a mock-up advertisement and the first cut of a television commercial filmed to promote the game.

Parker, naturally, expects to make the Mad game what the toy industry calls "a game board staple," a game that sells year after year regardless of economic conditions, falls in the toy market or downturns in the number of interested buyers. Parker has a fairly impressive record in producing staples, too. Besides "Monopoly," which has been around 40 years now, Parker is also the company behind such standards as "Clue," "Risk," "Payday" and "Careers."

The more important question, however, is whether Mad is planning to expend its acceptance of advertising and increase licensing in the future. It might indicate the company, a subsidiary of Warner Communications, is finally abandoning those two traditions that have stood Mad in such good stead for the better part of three decades.

Oh well, all good things must come to an end, especially when there's an opportunity to make money.

## HELLO ROOK, HELLO LEE

The Rook, Bill Duffay's character which has been popping up all over

the Warren magazines lately, gets its own magazine this summer. Tentative publication date for Rook #1 is July 31, according to Duffay, who says he's also going to be the editor. There'll also be one of those Warren Presents one-shot magazines dedicated to The Rook, scheduled for on sale March 13th.

All that is nice news, of course, but pales by comparison to the fact that Lee Elias, one of the very few truly great American comic-book artists, will be working on some Rook stories.

Elias, who began his long career in the early 1940s, got his first Rook assignment last September. Elias worked on it until early February ("I knocked my brains out on it," he says) and finally turned the 26-page story into a symphony of "washes, charcoal and juicy blacks."

As life would have it, however, the story doesn't seem destined to see the light of day in the near future. Duffay, who says the job is "gorgeous," also says big boss Jim Warren has slapped an arbitrary limit on the page length of Rook stories. Duffay says the Elias job is "so nice, I don't want to make it a two-parter, so I'll hold it for a while."

Thankfully, however, Duffay is apparently intent on getting an Elias story into that first issue of Rook in July. "I'll give him a shorter story to do, use that in the first issue and run the 26-pager when I can," Duffay says.

No matter what Elias work eventually appears, though, look forward to a treat. The 39-year-old artist's work has been hard to find lately ("I'm really disgusted with the garbage in most comic

books," he says), but he's perfectly suited for Warren magazines. He has no gear in his strategic uses of blacks, has an exciting, minimal style that should work well in black and white books and is a master storyteller.

## SHORT SHOTS

A 4-year-old Brooklyn, New York boy died February 11, ten days after he jumped out of a seventh-story window while allegedly trying to imitate Superman. According to police accounts, Charles Green had seen Superman The Movie the week before and his mother said "he'd been flying around the house all week, jumping off of tables and chairs." After Green's death at Kings County Hospital, his mother said the death had nothing to do with the movie. The child dangled from a window ledge by his fingertips for several minutes, then plunged to the ground. He was rushed to a hospital in critical condition, but never regained consciousness.

There's a big lawsuit or two brewing between some small comic-book distributors and the major comic-book and science-fiction magazine publishers. The suits, originally filed in a Baltimore Federal Court, involve National/DC, Marvel, Warren, Phil Sculley and Atlas Distributors, among others. It's become a mess of claims and cross complaints, all based on allegation of predatory pricing. Should be fun to watch, gang.

The ratings of all the prime-time television shows based on comic-book characters have been in the dumper throughout most of the 1970-1979 season. Most will be gone by the new season.



# The Almost Anything Goes Fan Page

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

The last fan page was entirely too wordy for our taste, even though it featured a once-in-a-lifetime Trivia Quiz. So this issue's page is given over entirely to art from our loyal fans! Also, don't forget the great VAMPIRELLA Costume Design Contest announced in issue #78. Your participation is demanded!

### THE GREMLIN



JOHN SCETTINO Dumont, N.J.



JOEL BEFF North Aurora, Ill.



RANDALL FOSTER address unknown



GEORGE KOZMON Cleveland Heights, Oh.



DESPERATELY SHE RUNS, HER SANDALLED FEET BAWSED AND  
 RAY FROM PELTING OVER TORTUOUS MILES OF ROCK EN-  
 CRUSTED TERRAIN! AND NOT ONCE DOES SHE RARE LOOK  
 BACK OVER SHOULDER...



...FOR SHE KNOWS ONLY TOO WELL  
 OF THE FEARFUL PREDATOR  
 THAT HAS BEEN RELENTLESSLY  
 STALKING HER MILE AFTER  
 MILE....!

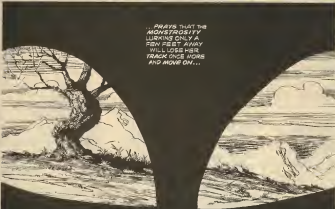


SILENTLY SHE CHOKES BACK THE  
 STRAINED RASPING OF HER SPENT  
 AND EXHAUSTED LUNGS --  
 TERRIFIED OF MAKING THE  
 SLIGHTEST SOUND THAT MIGHT  
 BETRAY WHERE SHE HAS TAKEN  
 MOMENTARY REFUGE.



SHE HEARS HIS  
 THUNDEROUS APPROACH...  
 AND SHE PRAYS...

...PRAYS THAT THE  
 MONSTROSITY  
 LURKING ONLY A  
 FEW FEET AWAY  
 WILL LOSE HER  
 TRACK ONCE MORE  
 AND MOVE ON...



# Edward & Griselda

STORY: LARRY BATES/ART: KAL MATERIA & JOE RUBENSTEIN









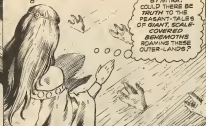


WHAT MANNER OF MAN OR  
BEAST COULD HAVE POSSIBLY...?



ON THE  
GROUND-- WHAT  
DO I SEE  
BEFORE ME?

TRACKS-- UNLIKE  
ANY I HAVE EVER  
ENCOUNTERED!



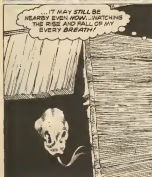
BY MITRA!  
COULD THERE BE  
TRUTH TO THE  
PEASANT-TALES  
OF GIANT, SCALE-  
COVERED  
SERPENTS  
ROAMING THESE  
OUTER-LANDS?

IF SUCH A MONSTER WAS  
HERE... NO DOUBT THAT UNFORTUNATE  
MERCHANT AND HIS WAGON FELL  
PREY TO THE BEAST'S INSATIABLE  
BLOOPLUST!



BUT MORE  
TO THE  
POINT...

...IT MAY STILL BE  
NEARBY EVEN NOW...WATCHING  
THE RISE AND FALL OF MY  
EVERY BREATH!



I MUST TRAVEL  
WITH EVEN GREATER  
CAUTION THAN  
BEFORE!



IF ONLY I COULD FIND  
THE HORSE THAT WAS HARNESSSED  
TO THE MERCHANT'S WAGON....!









IT'S DRAGGED ME BACK TO THE BLOODY REMAINS OF ITS FIRST VICTIM!

WHY DOESN'T THE DRAGON JUST FINISH WHAT IT STARTED AND DEVOUR ME?



IT APPEARS THAT THAT IS WHAT IT PLANS TO DO!

I ONLY PRAY THAT THE END SHALL BE MERCIFULLY SWIFT!



I HAVE BEEN SPARED... BUT I KNOW NOT WHY!

THE ONE PERSISTS IN HUGGING ME CLOSER... CLOSER TO THE MERCHANT THEY SO RUTHLESSLY SLEW!



WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO DO, UNLESS...

...UNLESS IT IS TO SHOW ME SOMETHING, BUT WHAT--?

NO! OF COURSE--IT IS THE WOUND ITSELF! NOW I UNDERSTAND!



THE WOUND ITSELF COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE BY TEETH!

RATHER, IT IS A CLEAN AND SMOOTH, AS IF MADE BY A SLICE--THE BRUTAL SLICE OF A BROADSWORD!

AND I KNOW WHO WOULD HAVE THE STOMACH AND STRENGTH FOR SUCH A VILE SENSELESS DEED--



EDWARD!



PRAY CONTINUE, EDWARD! BEFORE OUR LAST ROUND OF ALL YOU HAD JUST TOLD THE TALE OF THE THIEF DISGUISED AS A MONK... AND WON THE BOLD SWINE DID HIS BEST TO SLAY YOU BEFORE YOU FLEW HIM YOUR BROADSWORD!

AH INDEED! I SHALL!



"I HAD SCOUTED THE SURROUNDING AREA FOR MY BELOVED GRYSELDA WITHOUT SUCCESS--SO I CHOSE THE ONE COURSE OF ACTION LEFT OPEN TO ME--MY STEED AND I BEGAN TO DOUBLE-BACK..."



THESE ASTOUNDING CREATURES... THEY SEEM TO POSSESS A WISDOM ALL THEIR OWN!



WHAT IS IT? HAVE I DONE SOMETHING TO FRIGHTEN YOU? COME BACK!

WHY ARE THEY ALL SO SUDDENLY FLEEING?

"I ASCENDED THE TOP OF A HILL--AND LO AND BEHOLD! THERE WAS MY GRYSELDA, STANDING BUT A FEW FEET FROM THE LYING MONK-TREE'S OVERTURNED WAGON..."



EDWARD! HE'S FOUND ME AT LAST!

"I CANNOT RELATE THE SHEER JOY WHICH POSSESSED ME AS I STRODE FORTH TOWARD THE OUTSTRETCHED ARMS OF MY FAIR DANSEL..."



I WILL THROTTLE YOU UNTIL YOU SLEEP, RAVEN, UNGRATEFUL WENCH!

"GRYSELDA WAS OVERWHELMED WITH EMOTION AT MY LONG-AWAITED APPROACH..."



OUR DAYS APART HAD ONLY SERVED TO FEED THE FLAME OF OUR LOVE!"





YOU HAVE FLED FROM ME  
FOR THE VERY LAST TIME,  
GRISELDA! I BELIEVE I HAVE  
HIT UPON A MEANS OF  
INSURING YOUR FIDELITY  
FROM NOW ON....!



WHEN NEXT YOU ATTEMPT  
TO LEAVE MY SIDE, DEAR  
MADEN, I GUARANTEE IT  
SHALL BE AN  
EXCRUCIATINGLY SLOW  
AND PAINFUL ATTEMPT...



ONCE MORE YOU HAVE  
UNDERESTIMATED MY  
RESOLVE, GRISELDA!

YOU ARE  
ABOUT TO FEEL  
THE ERROR  
OF YOUR  
JUDGMENT!

YOU  
COULD NOT  
...NOT EVEN  
ONE AS WILE  
AS YOU...!



"AND THEN--JUST AS I WAS TO GRASP LOVELY  
GRISELDA'S MILK-WHITE FOOT--TERROR STRUCK!"



"A COLD-BLOODED, HISSING TERROR THAT MUST HAVE RISEN UP FROM THE VERY PITTS OF HELL!"



"FORTY HEADS HIGH THE DRAGON WAS, FROM ITS SHOUT TO TAIL! WITH FEARSOME JAWS MASSIVE ENOUGH TO SWALLOW MY STEED WHOLE!"



"BELCHING FIRE AND SMOKE FROM ITS CAVERNOUS MOUTH, TAUNTING ME WITH ITS GIANT PARTING FORKED TONGUE..."



BUT IT WAS THE TAIL -- THE TAIL WHICH BECAME MY UNDOING! A TAIL MASSIVE ENOUGH TO LEVEL A STONE EMBATTEMENT TO RUBBLE!"



"SENSELESS, I WAS SQUALED IN MY ARMOR--AND THE BIGHORN CHARGE FORMED ITS HELLISH JAWS SNAPPING, SNAPPING..."





"AT THAT MOMENT, I FELT MY LAST BREATH WAS NO MORE THAN A KISS AWAY..."

ENOUGH!  
THERE HAS BEEN  
ENOUGH KILLING  
HERE THIS DAY!

"YES? YOU MUST NOT STOP NOW, EDWARD! WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? WHAT BECAME OF YOUR GRISELDA?"

HOLD HIM  
SECURE, MY  
PETS!

I HAVE A FAR MORE  
FITTING FATE IN STORE FOR  
MY PERSISTENT EDWARD!

"IT IS USELESS TO BRAY AT HIM, RICHARD! EDWARD NEVER DOES FINISH HIS STORY ONCE HE REACHES THIS PART..."

GRISELDA! YOU  
WOULD NOT... YOU  
COULD NOT...

WHATEVER HAPPENED FROM  
THAT POINT ON MUST BE TOO  
HORRID FOR POOR EDWARD TO  
SHARE WITH ANYONE!

PERHAPS YOU ARE  
RIGHT, JAMES...  
PERHAPS WE WILL  
NEVER KNOW!

GRISELDA HAS NOT BEEN  
SEEN SINCE-- SHE NO DOUBT  
FELL PREY TO THE DRAGON!

I DO NOT KNOW HOW  
EDWARD ESCAPED... BUT HE  
IS FORTUNATE HE DID NOT  
LOSE MORE OF HIMSELF IN  
THE PROCESS!

AFTER ALL, FROM WHAT HE SAID  
OF THIS DRAGON-- ONE FOOT  
SEEMS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY  
FOR ESCAPING WITH ONE'S  
VERY LIFE!

AND SUCH A  
CLEAN SLICE  
IT WAS, TOO!  
THE DRAGON'S  
TEETH MUST  
HAVE BEEN AS  
SHARP AS THE  
FINEST BLADE...



...NOT THAT I DON'T  
ENJOY SANDY BEACHES  
AND TROPICAL SUN AS MUCH  
AS ANY OTHER GUY FED UP  
WITH SMOG AND  
SUBWAYS...



... BUT I'M STILL GLAD  
WE'RE LEAVING AMITY BE-  
HIND US! I CAME AWAY FROM  
OUR LITTLE VACATION WITH  
WHAT I WANTED MOST!...



-- AND  
THAT'S YOU,  
SWEETHEART!



NOTHING ON  
HEAVEN OR EARTH  
WILL EVER SEPARATE  
US AGAIN -- I  
PROMISE!

# I THINK I'LL KEEP HER





YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL, ALISHA... SO VERY BEAUTIFUL...



BREAKFAST, SIR...

WOULD YOU AND THE LADY LIKE JUICE WITH YOUR EGGS AND TOAST?



JUST A MOMENT, WAITER--



SIR--?



DAMN! I CAN TASTE SALT IN THESE EGGS! I THOUGHT I MADE MYSELF VERY CLEAR--



MY WIFE IS NOT TO HAVE SALT IN ANY FORM, WHATSOEVER!



I-I'M SO SORRY  
SIR! IT WON'T  
HAPPEN AGAIN!

NOT WITH YOU!  
IT WON'T! WE'LL  
ORDER FROM OUR  
CABIN!

C'MON,  
SWEETHE. RT.

SHE MUST HAVE  
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE.  
HERBERT... I READ IN READERS  
DIGEST YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED  
TO HAVE SALT IF YOUR  
PRESSURE'S HIGH!

YOU SEE HOW  
GLASSY HER EYES  
WERE? IF YOU ASK  
ME SHE'S ON  
DRUGS!

THIS CRUISE IS  
BEING RUN BY A CREW  
OF INCOMPETENTS!

MAYBE I SHOULD'VE  
CHARTERED A PLANE  
BACK TO NEW YORK  
AFTER ALL...

AND NOW IT LOOKS  
LIKE A STORM'S  
APPROACHING!

THOUGH OUR RECENT EXPERIENCE WITH FLYING  
LEFT A LOT TO BE DESIRED...

BUT I TOLD YOU  
WHAT THE ODDS WERE  
BEFORE WE EVER  
LEFT THE GROUND!

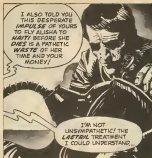
DOCTOR-- I DON'T  
CARE WHAT YOU HAVE  
TO DO-- BUT DON'T LET  
HER DYE IN THE AIR!

A FEW HOURS  
MAY BE MORE THAN  
ANY OF US HAVE A RIGHT  
TO EXPECT, DEAN! I'M  
AFRAID SHE'S PERILOUSLY  
CLOSE TO THE FINISH!

JUST A FEW  
MORE HOURS!  
THAT'S ALL  
I ASK!

AT LEAST THE COMMA  
IS SAVING HER FROM THE  
AGONY OF ANY FURTHER  
PAIN!





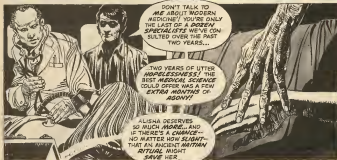
I ALSO TOLD YOU  
THIS DESPERATE  
IMPULSE OF YOURS  
TO FLY ALISHA TO  
HAITI BEFORE SHE  
DIES IS A PATHETIC  
WASTE OF HER  
TIME AND YOUR  
MONEY!

I'M NOT  
LINSYMPATHETIC! THE  
LASTING TREATMENT  
I COULD UNDERSTAND...



... BUT REALLY, DEAN--  
HAVE YOU ACTUALLY  
DECEIVED YOURSELF INTO  
BELIEVING SOME WOODS  
PRIESTRESS IN SOME  
PRIMITIVE VILLAGE WILL  
SHAKE A STICK AND  
MAKE YOUR WIFE  
WELL AGAIN?

IF MODERN  
MEDICINE  
CAN'T...



DON'T TALK TO  
ME ABOUT MODERN  
MEDICINE! YOU'RE ONLY  
THE LAST OF A DOZEN  
SPECIALISTS WE'VE CON-  
SULTED OVER THE PAST  
TWO YEARS...

TWO YEARS OF UTTER  
HOPELESSNESS! THE  
BEST MEDICAL SCIENCE  
COULD OFFER HAS A FEW  
EXTRA MONTHS OF  
AGONY!

ALISHA DESERVES  
SO MUCH MORE... AND  
IF THERE'S A CHANCE--  
NO MATTER HOW SLIGHT--  
THAT AN ANCIENT HAITIAN  
RITUAL MIGHT  
SAVE HER...



I'M GOING TO DAWN  
WE'LL TAKE IT! I LOVE  
HER TOO MUCH TO DO ANY-  
THING LESS!

WELCOME  
TO HAITI



I STILL DON'T  
APPROVE OF THIS, DEAN--  
BUT MAY GOD BE WITH  
YOU BOTH!



A KNOCK ON THE CABIN DOOR INTERRUPTS DEAN HYPES TROUBLED WILING.

DEAN HYPES

JUST... SET IT  
DOWN... BY THE DOOR...  
PLEASE!

ROOM SERVICE.  
MR. HYPES? BREAKFAST  
FOR TWO, ONE WITH-  
OUT SALT.

WORKS EVERY TIME...  
WHenever I FEEL MYSELF  
GETTING TENSED UP... A VO-  
CABUS WORKOUT... NEVER  
FAIL TO WORK-OUT THE  
NERVES!

DON'T KNOW ABOUT  
YOU, BUT MR. HYPES  
LITTLE BOY DEAN IS  
FAMISHED!

IF YOU'RE  
NOT CAREFUL, I'LL  
BE SCARING UP  
YOUR BREAK-  
FAST TOO!

WAAA... NOW  
THAT'S WHAT I CALL  
GOOD EGGS!

NOT NOW,  
HONEY-- CAN'T  
YOU WAIT TILL  
AFTER WE  
EAT?

I KNOW THIS  
GOD IS  
IRRESISTIBLE  
AND ALL THAT,  
BUT--

HEY--  
YOU'RE  
TRYING TO  
CON ME! I  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE  
AFTER!

— YOU  
JUST WANT MY  
SWEAT!

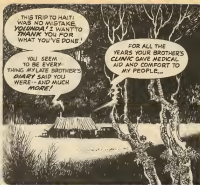
HOW MANY  
TIMES DO I  
HAVE TO TELL  
YOU--





--NO  
SALT!

NO...



YOU SEEM  
TO BE EVERY-  
THING MY LATE BROTHER'S  
BARRY SAID YOU  
WERE-- AND MUCH  
MORE!

FOR ALL THE  
YEARS YOUR BROTHER'S  
CLINIC GAVE MEDICAL  
AID AND COMFORT TO  
MY PEOPLE...



YOU CAN REALLY  
DO IT? YOU CAN  
REALLY BRING MY  
WIFE BACK FROM  
THE DEAD?  
AS A...A...



SHE WILL  
NEVER BE ALIVE  
AGAIN... BUT SHE  
WILL BE **ZOMBI**  
FOREVER.

IF I HAVE  
SUCCEEDED--  
SHE WILL ANSWER  
TO HER NAME!  
CALL HER--!



ALPHA... ALPHA.  
IT'S ME, DEAN! PLEASE,  
SWEETHEART... I...

GOOD LORD!  
SHE'S COLD  
ALREADY!



YOU'RE A FREAK,  
YOUNGDA-- A WOODOO  
DICK! I SHOULD BE  
COMFORTED FOR EVEN  
THINKING YOU COULD DO  
THE IMPOSSIBLE...  
THE UNTHINKABLE!

PERHAPS  
YOU SHOULD  
LOOK  
AGAIN!









MAN  
OVERBOARD!  
MAN  
OVERBOARD!



"AND YOU SHALL ALWAYS  
BE TOGETHER, MR. HYPES  
...THOUGH YOU MUST REEDY!  
MOST SOLENN WORD  
OF WARNING...

...AND THAT  
WORD IS  
SALT!



"SALT-- THE UNIVERSE L  
WHITE MAGIC..."

THAT  
LADY IS  
CRAZY!

IN THESE  
WATERS THEY'LL  
BOTH DROWN BE  
FORE WE CAN THROW  
PRESERVERS!



"FOR SHOULD A BOMB COME  
IN CONTACT WITH SALT-- IN  
ANY FORM WHATSOEVER...

NO,  
ALISHA, KEEP  
AWAY! DON'T  
TOUCH  
ME!

FORGET  
IT... WE DON'T  
BELONG TOGETHER  
ANYMORE!



"THE BOMB WILL AT  
ONCE BE FREE OF ITS  
HOLDING COILS... FREE  
TO TAKE ITS RIGHTFUL  
PLACE AMONG THE  
SILENT DEAD..."

NOOOOOOOO  
GLUB!



"...NEVER TO RETURN  
TO THE LAND OF THE  
LIVING EVER AGAIN!

"GOODNIGHT, MR. HYPES,  
MAY YOU AND YOUR WIFE  
HAVE A MOST  
PLEASANT JOURNEY!"





Book of the Day! **Frank Kelly** artist in the United States. It contains 55 full color paintings and 78 sketches including posters & art from book covers. This book was dedicated to the artist by the Amazing Art-Man who, at 80, said Kelly was a new light. This is a spectacular 11 1/2" x 11" softcover edition that is destined to be a classic! #21284754/97

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GET SET, HARRISON!  
GET SET! BECAUSE IN  
EXACTLY THIRTY SECONDS  
ALL OUR YEARS OF SECRET  
WORK WILL BE REWARDED!  
THE MOMENT I THROW THIS  
SWITCH YOUR BODY WILL GO  
INTO A DEATHLIKE TRANCE  
AND YOUR MIND WILL BE  
TRANSFERRED INTO THE  
BODY OF THAT GIANT  
SQUID!

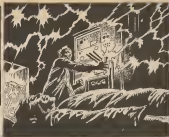
THINK WHAT A BOON IT  
WILL BE TO SCIENTIFIC RE-  
SEARCH FOR MAN ACTUALLY  
TO BE ABLE TO EXPERIENCE  
FIRSTHAND THE LIVES OF THE  
CREATURES HE HAS CHOSEN  
TO STUDY!

# Night of the SQUID



A FORBIDDING HUM FELS THE LABORATORY AS DR. SAMUEL OSBURY THROWS THE HATEFUL SWITCH, SENDING THOUSANDS OF VOLTS OF ELECTRICITY COURSIING THROUGH HUNDREDS OF MILES OF MICRO-TRANSISTORIZED CIRCUITRY...

NOW, HARRISON! NOW!



...AND THEN...

FOR GOD'S SAKE, HARRISON! DON'T KEEP ME IN SUSPENSE MAN! USE THE MAGNETIC MESSAGE-BOARD! TELL ME... HAVE WE DONE IT? HAVE WE DONE IT?



FOR A MOMENT THERE IS AN SERIS SILENCE, AND THEN, SLOWLY, A MANMOTH TENTACLE BOTHERS SERPENTLIKE OUT OF THE GREAT GLASS-WALLED TANK, AND THE GIANT SQUID...RESPONDS...

YES I AM HARRISON

HA HA HA! LEUREKA!

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS MEANS, HARRISON? WE HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF EXQUISITE RESEARCH AHEAD OF US! EVEN THOUGH YOUR INTELLECT IS NOW HAMPERED BY THE WHINISCE BRAIN OF THAT CREATURE, WE CAN LEARN MUCH!







IT'S JUST A FEW MINUTES PAST MIDNIGHT, HARRISON, AND YOU NEEDN'T FEAR. BY MIDNIGHT TOMORROW, I WILL SWITCH YOUR MIND BACK INTO YOUR OWN BODY!

WE BOTH KNOW THAT WERE I TO FAIL TO MEET THAT DEADLINE, THE TRANSFERENCE-LINK WOULD BREAK DOWN COMPLETELY! YOUR MIND WOULD BE TRAPPED FOREVER IN THE BODY OF THE SQUID!

BUT I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN.



OH, HARRISON! THIS IS THE PUREST EUPHORIA I HAVE EVER KNOWN IN AN ENTIRE LIFETIME OF LABORING IN THE VINEYARDS OF SCIENCE! NOW THEY WILL ENVY US, HARRISON!

HOW THEY...

BAGG! N-HARRISON! N-MY CHEST! P-PAINS (N... MY CHEST...)



HARRISON STARES AS THE SCIENTIST LURCHES AGAINST THE MESSAGE-BOARD, SPILLING THE BOX OF LETTERS...

...THEN STAGGERS ACROSS THE ROOM...

...BUT HIS HEROIC EFFORT IS IN VAIN... AND TRY THOUGH HE MIGHT, HARRISON HIMSELF CANNOT RE-CH. THE SWITCH.



D-DON'T WORRY, HARRISON... I'LL BRING YOU... BACK! I'LL THROW... SWITCH... BRING YOU...



...BACK...





ALL NIGHT LONG THE LAB  
IS DEEPLY SILENT AND IN  
THE MORNING...

GOOD MORNING,  
GENTLEMEN  
ARE YOU...

GASP!

DR. MARKSON!  
CALL AN AMBULANCE!  
CALL THE POLICE!  
HURRY!

SOON...

THE ONE ON THE FLOOR  
DIED OF A HEART ATTACK,  
LIEUTENANT! THIS ONE'S  
A MYSTERY! I CAN'T REALLY  
TELL WHAT KILLED HIM!  
MAY'VE BEEN CONNECTED  
WITH SOME EXPERIMENT  
THEY WERE PERFORMING

OKAY, DOC!  
THANKS!

THAT'S IT JOHNSON  
MOVE THAT MESSAGE  
BOARD OVER INTO THE  
HALL SO THE COORNER'S  
BOYS CAN GET THROUGH  
WITH THEIR STRETCHER!

RIGHT,  
LIEUTENANT!

NOW, DR. MARKSON!  
YOU WERE DR. OSILVY'S  
ASSISTANT, IS THAT  
CORRECT?

YES I WAS,  
LIEUTENANT! I  
ASSISTED BOTH  
DR. OSILVY AND  
DR. HARRISON!



BUT THIS PARTICULAR RESEARCH PROJECT REMAINS A MYSTERY TO ME / THEY ALWAYS WORKED ON IT ALONE TOGETHER AT NIGHT WHEN NO ONE ELSE WAS...

LIEUTENANT! LOOK!

WHAT IS IT PHILLIPS?

TH- THE SOUND LIEUTENANT, LOOK AT IT!

THE CORONER'S BOYS PUT THAT STUFF ON A STRETCHER TO TAKE IT TO THE FUNERAL HOME AND THE SOUND JUST WENT COMPLETELY CRAZY!

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, DR. MARKSON?

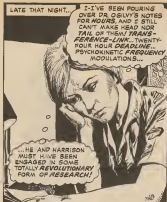
I-I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW, LIEUTENANT! EXPERIMENTAL ANIMALS OFTEN DEVELOP STRONG FEELINGS TOWARD THE SCIENTISTS WHO WORK WITH THEM, BUT BEYOND THAT I-I JUST DON'T KNOW!

IT'S LIKE HE WAS TRYING TO STOP US FROM CARTING THAT GUY HARRISON OUT OF HERE!

ALL RIGHT THEN PHILLIPS, CARRY ON WITH IT!

YESSIR!













...AND THEN NOW  
WHEN JIMMY TRIED  
TO REMOVE THE...

THE BOARD! THE  
MAGNETIC MESSAGE-  
BOARD! OF COURSE!  
THAT'S IT! IT MUST  
BE IT!



THE SQUID BECAME  
VIOLENT WHEN IT  
SAW THAT JIMMY WAS  
ABOUT TO REMOVE  
THE MESSAGE  
BOARD!



THIS MAY BE  
COMPLETELY CRAZY!  
BUT I'M BETTING  
THAT...

YES! I-I WAS RIGHT!  
THE SQUID! H-HE'S  
STARTING TO SPELLOUT  
A MESSAGE! H-HE'S  
SAYING, I... I...



OH GOD! H-HOW  
COULDE I  
EVER HAVE BEEN  
SO BLIND?

I AM  
HARRISON



I-IT ALL MAKES PERFECT  
SENSE NOW! NO WONDER  
HE BECAME AGITATED  
WHEN HARRISON'S BODY  
WAS BEING CARRIED OUT  
OF HERE! HARRISON'S  
NOT DEAD AT ALL...

...JUST IN SOME  
SORT OF DEATHLINE  
STATE WHILE HIS MIND  
TEMPORARILY INHABITS  
THE BODY OF THE  
SQUID!

HARRISON WAS  
PROBABLY TRAPPED  
INSIDE THE SQUID  
WHEN DR. OSLEVY  
HAD HIS...



OH MY GOD  
THE DEADLINE!





THE TWENTY-FOUR HOUR DEADLINE! I'VE GOT LESS THAN TEN MINUTES TO RE-UNITE HARRISON'S MIND WITH HIS BODY BEFORE IT BECOMES TRAPPED INSIDE THE BODY OF THE SQUID FOREVER!



B-BUT HARRISON'S BODY IS AT THE FUNERAL HOME!

DR. HARRISON! IF YOU CAN HEAR ME! TELL ME, WILL THE SWITCH-BACK WORK OVER A LONG DISTANCE? WILL IT WORK WITH YOUR MIND HERE AND YOUR PHYSICAL BODY AT THE FUNERAL HOME?



THANK HEAVEN! THE ANSWER IS YES! WE STILL HAVE THREE MINUTES LEFT BEFORE THE DEAD-LINE! BUT THAT'S PLENTY OF TIME TO THROW SWITCH NUMBER FOUR AND RE-UNITE YOUR MIND AND BODY!

I AM HARRISON

YES SWITCH 4



DON'T WORRY, DR. HARRISON! I-I'VE DONE IT! YOU'RE SAVED!

SAVED DR. HARRISON? WELL, PERHAPS YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THE LOVELY DOCTOR HAD MANAGED TO THROW THAT SWITCH...



BEFORE THE UNDERTAKER HAD FILLED YOUR VEINS WITH FORMALDEHYDE....!



WARREN COMMUNICATIONS

WARREN COMMUNICATIONS

Presents

Presents

An L.D. PRODUCTION

Starring



Hilda Rodigan  
as  
Maudie Bellock

Elyse Rosansky  
as  
Hanna Bellock

Luis Salcedo  
as  
Neel Stimson

Jorge Roldan  
as  
Dr. Flood

Leo Duranona  
as  
Mr. Lester and  
Corwen Bellock

in

# FUNGUS

Script: Archie Goodwin

Produced by Hilda Duranona

Photography: Hilda Lizarazu and  
Leopoldo Duranona

Film Processing: Hilda Lizarazu

Film Editing: Laura Duranona

Directed by Leopoldo Duranona

Our special thanks to Mr. Benjamin Malerva, President of the Historical Society of Port Jefferson and his wife for their generous cooperation and use of their beautiful home.



IT BEGAN WITH MR. STIMSON, AN ARTIST UP FROM NEW YORK CITY, MAUDE, WHOSE TALENT IN LIFE SEEMED TO BE FINDING THE SMALLEST THING WRONG, WAS OF COURSE THE FIRST TO NOTICE.

IT APPEARS YOU  
MISSED A SPOT WASHING  
UP FOR DINNER... I  
DON'T LIKE OIL PAINT  
IN MY FOOD.

NEITHER DO I MRS. BELLOCK.  
SO I WASH CAREFULLY. IT'S SOME  
KIND OF DISCOLORATION, MAYBE  
FROM THE NEW BRAND OF TURPS  
I'VE BEEN USING.

P-PERHAPS IT'S  
A BRUISE  
...OR SORE.

SEEMED ALL RIGHT  
EARLIER... BUT NOW THAT  
YOU MENTION IT HANNA  
IT DOES FEEL A BIT  
*TENDER.*

WELL IF IT GIVES  
ME ANY TROUBLE  
I'LL HAVE IT LOOKED  
AFTER.

BREAD  
MRS. BELLOCK?

THANK YOU,  
NO!



THE WATER, AND MAUDE'S REACTION TO IT, AT FIRST SEEMED TO AMUSE NOEL STIMSON, BUT BEFORE DINNER WAS OVER...

EXCUSE ME, I  
I DON'T FEEL  
SO GOOD, I'M GOING  
BACK UPSTAIRS

SUIT YOURSELF  
BUT I WON'T HAVE  
HANNA PREPARING  
ANYTHING EXTRA  
LATER

LISTEN, HE'S STOPPED  
IN THE THIRD FLOOR BATH-  
ROOM. HANNA, I WANT THAT  
PLACE SCoured THE  
MOMENT HE'S OUT.

THERE'S NO TELLING  
WHAT KIND OF DISEASE  
THOSE ARTISTIC TYPES  
BRING UP FROM THE  
BIG CITY.

MAUDE, HE'S BEEN  
WITH US ALL WINTER.  
ANYTHING BOTHERING  
HIM WAS CAUGHT RIGHT  
HERE IN STORM  
HARBOR.

AS USUAL, MAUDE IGNORED HER  
YOUNGER SISTER'S WORDS, QUIETLY  
BUT QUICKLY SHE MOVED TO PRO-  
TECT HER BOARDING HOUSE'S  
SECOND LARGEST BATHROOM.

THIS IS TERRIBLE,  
MAUDE. WE CAN'T SAY  
SO HIM... HE'LL  
WASARRASS HIM.

IT'S OUR HOME,  
HANNA... WE'VE A  
RIGHT TO KNOW  
WHAT'S HAPPENING  
IN IT.

WHAT HAD BEEN A SPOT WAS  
NOW SOMETHING ELSE  
THRASHING FURIOUSLY...

...CHANGING RAPIDLY.



THE PAINTER WHIRLED AND PUSHED PAST THEM...RUSHING UP THE STAIRS TO HIS ATTIC QUARTERS.

**SLAM**

HH-HH'S SENSITIVE, MAUDE. FOR AN ARTIST TO HAVE SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIS HANDS.

**KUNK**

WELL, HE'S NOT GOING TO MOPE AROUND IN MY ATTIC WITH SOMETHING CONTAGIOUS...

RECENT SNOWSTORMS HAD INTERRUPTED PHONE SERVICE AND HANNA HAD TO TAKE THE COLD WALK INTO THE VILLAGE TO FETCH DOCTOR FLOOD.

HASNT MADE A PEEP SINCE LOCKING HIMSELF IN...WONT EVEN ANSWER MY KNOCK! THANK HEAVEN I'VE KEYS TO EVERY ROOM!



UH... PERHAPS I'D BETTER HANDLE THIS... ALONE NEVER SAW ANYTHING QUITE... UH... LIKE THIS

WITH A LITTLE... UH... CLOSER EXAMINATION, I'M SURE IT'LL BE... ER... ALL RIGHT

I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED HANNA. WE WENT AGAINST GREAT UNCLE CORNER'S WISHES TO BRING THAT MAN IN HERE... NOW LOOK!

I'VE PAID FOR THE ENTIRE WINTER, MAUDE... AT SUMMER RATES. YOU KNOW THE UPKEEP ON THIS OLD PLACE...



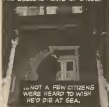
... WITH INFLATION  
AND ALL, WE HAD TO  
DO IT, MAUDE, WE  
HAD TO!

WELL I HOPE IT  
WAS THAT SISTER...  
AND NOT HIS LOOKS  
THAT MADE YOU TALK  
ME INTO THIS!

BELLOCK HOUSE WAS BUILT  
IN 1830 BY CORWEN BELLOCK,  
A CLIPPER SHIPMASTER AND  
STORM HARBOR, MAINE'S  
WEALTHIEST CITIZEN...



GOSSIP HAD IT THAT MUCH OF  
THE WEALTH CAME BY FOUL OR  
SHADY MEANS, TALES ALSO  
CIRCULATED OF STRANGE OBJECTS  
AND BOOKS THAT CORWEN BELLOCK  
BROUGHT HOME FROM ANCIENT  
AND OBSCURE PORTS OF CALL...



...NOT A FEW CITIZENS  
WERE HEARD TO WISH  
HE'D DIE AT SEA.

BUT THE GOOD CAPTAIN  
LIVED TO RETIRE...AND UP-  
SET STORM HARBOR FURTHER  
HE WAS SAID TO HAVE A  
STRANGE STUDY UP IN HIS  
ATTIC...



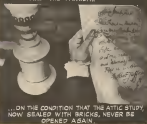
...AND PASSERS-BY OFTEN  
REPORTED DISTURBING FLASH-  
ES FROM THE NORTH WINDOW

SOME TIME AFTER THESE SIGHTINGS,  
HE BECAME A TOTAL RECLUSE...  
ANGRILY TURNING AWAY ALL VISITORS  
EVEN HIS OWN BROTHER AND SISTER-  
IN-LAW.



MORE MONTHS PASSED AND  
THE OUTSIDE WORLD ALMOST  
FORGOT CORWEN BELLOCK...

...UNTIL HIS OWN LAWYER CAME TO INVESTI-  
GATE. BELLOCK WAS GONE, A LETTER LEFT  
BEHIND IMPLIED HE'D RETURNED TO SEA,  
AND LEFT THE HOUSE TO HIS BROTHER  
AND HIS FAMILY...



...ON THE CONDITION THAT THE ATTIC STUDY,  
NOW SEALED WITH BRICKS, NEVER BE  
OPENED AGAIN.

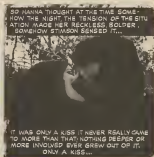
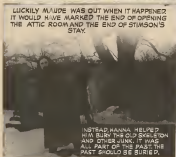
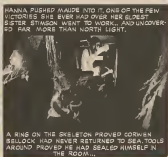
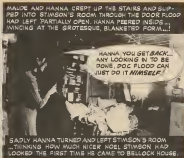
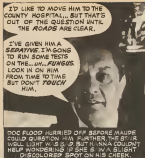
WE BROKE THE CONDITIONS  
OF THE LETTER AND OPENED  
UP THAT ROOM, HANNA...  
ALL FOR SOME HIGH AND  
RIGHTY ARTIST!

IF PAPA OR ANY  
OF OUR OTHER RELAT-  
IVES WERE ALIVE  
THEY'D...

LADIES... I'VE  
DONE WHAT  
I COULD

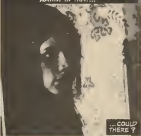








...DEEP PASSIONATE.YES.BUT STILL...  
ONLY A KISS THERE COULDN'T BE ANY  
WARM IN THAT...



...COULD  
THERE ?

ALMOST IN ANSWER, A SOUND SHOOK THE HOUSE.  
IT TOOK HANNA A MOMENT TO REALIZE IT WAS A  
HUMAN SCREAM, AND IT WAS STIMSON.

YYAAAGCHHH

HANNA! YOU  
STAY BACK  
FROM THERE...  
STAY BACK!

HE'S IN PAIN,  
MAUDE... HE NEEDS  
HELP!

ACTUALLY  
...HE WAS  
QUITE  
BEYOND  
IT.

NO...  
NO...  
NO...

HANNA, WILL YOU  
LISTEN! WE'VE GOT  
TO GET OUT OF HERE!  
GET OUT!

MAUDE SHOWED HANNA FROM THE ROOM...AND IN  
SO DOING, BRUSHED HER SKIRT AGAINST THE BED,  
AGAINST WHATEVER WAS GROWING ON NOEL STIMSON.

MY-MY GOD... I  
WOULDN'T LEAVE IT  
NOT ON MY CLOTHES  
NOT ON ME.

SHE BEGAN FRANTICALLY BEATING AT THE GOING,  
SPREADING MASS OF TENDRILS...

...WITH HER HAND.

THE DOCTOR,  
HANNA... BRING  
DR. FLOOR...  
PLEASE!



STILL STUNNED, HANNA MANAGED TO RESPOND TO HER SISTER'S CHOKED WHISPER. SHE WAS TRYING TO REMEMBER THE LAST TIME MAUDE HAD EVER SAID *PLEASE* TO HER...

...WHEN THE BOARDING HOUSES ONLY OTHER PERMANENT GUEST, MR. LESTER, CALLED OUT FROM HIS ROOM.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON UPSTAIRS, MISS BELLOCK... BUT YOU COME LOOK! JUST LOOK!



NOW YOU SWARE WHEN THAT YOUNG FELLA MOVED IN ABOVE ME THERE'D BE NO TROUBLE...

THIS IS JUST GOD-AWFUL, MISS BELLOCK! WHY WHILE I WAS SLEEPIN'!



... SOME OF THAT STUFF FELL ON MY CHEST! LEFT A STAIN ON MY PAJAMA TOPS THAT I'LL EXPECT YOU TO... TO...

AHHHhhh!



HANNA BACKED AWAY, NO LONGER STUNNED, NO LONGER DAZED...

EVERYTHING WAS CLEAR TO HER NOW... ESPECIALLY THE MONSTER SLEEPING THROUGH, GRADUALLY PERVADE HER FAMILY HOME!



BREATH SOBING FROM HER BODY, THROAT BURNING, SHE RAN... ALL THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE.

DOCTOR FLOOD... OPEN UP, PLEASE! THE FUNGUS IS SPREADING...! FROM NOEL... MR. STUBSON... TO EVERYONE!



DOCTOR! CAN'T YOU HEAR ME...?! THAT STUFF IS TAKING OVER EVERYTHING!

I KNOW, HANNA... I KNOW!







DON'T RUN HANNA. IT'S NOT BAD. ONCE YOU UNDERSTAND IT... THEY ARE FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION... THEY NEED MORE ROOM... NEW WORLDS

IF YOU LISTEN... IF YOU DON'T GET HYSTERICAL AS THEY GROW ON YOU... THEY COMMUNICATE THROUGH YOUR MIND.



YOUR GREAT UNCLE, WITH HIS EXPERIMENTS, OPENED THE WAY FOR THEM... THEN TRIED TO CUT IT OFF WHEN HE PERCEIVED THE SITUATION.

SOME PEOPLE MAKE BETTER HOSTS THAN OTHERS... MAKE IT EASIER FOR THEM TO SPREAD, BUT FAST OR SLOW...

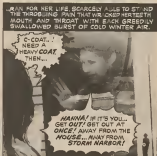
THEY NEED A HUMAN HOSTS TO FLOURISH... TO SPREAD HANNA. OTHERWISE THEY BECOME DORMANT AS THEY WERE WHEN STANSON AWAKENED THEM.



...JUST A BRIEF FATAL CONTACT IS ALL THEY NEED. I'VE BEEN DOING MY PART SINCE LEAVING YOUR HOUSE MOST OF THE TOWN WILL BE...

NO! HANNA, DON'T. IT'S INEVITABLE ANYWAY! IT'S...

SHE TURN AND RAN, RAN FASTER THAN BEFORE...



O-COAT...! NEED A HEAVY COAT THEN...

HANNA! IF IT'S YOU... GET OUT! GET OUT AT ONCE! AWAY FROM THE HOUSE... AWAY FROM STORM HARBOR!



THERE WAS THE SOUND OF BREAKING GLASS, THE SMELL OF KEROSENE, THEN ... THE FRONT DOOR BURST OPEN!

DON'T LET IT GET YOU...

I WON'T LET IT GET...

...MEEEEEEEEEE!

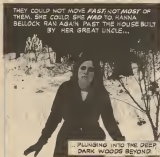


MAJOR DIED QUIETLY, AT LEAST  
HANNA ~~WISHED~~ SHE HAD, BUT  
FOR SORROW OR REGRET  
COULD GET IN...



... SHE BECAME AWARE OF MOVEMENT FROM  
THE HOUSE... FROM THE VILLAGE FIGURES,  
STALKING, FIGURES NO LONGER QUITE HUMAN.

THEY COULD NOT MOVE *FAST*, NOT MOST OF  
THEM. SHE COULD *NOT* GO TO HANNA.  
BELLÖCK RAN AGAIN, PAST THE HOUSE BUILT  
BY HER GREAT UNCLE...



... PLUNGING INTO THE DEEP  
DARK WOODS BEYOND.

THE PAIN, THE THROBBING IN HER THROAT, HER  
LUNGS, HER MOUTH WAS MORE INTENSE THAN  
EVER. IT SPURRED HER, KEPT HER FROM GIVING  
UP, FALLING DOWN IN EXHAUSTION, SLUMBER.  
THE THINGS STILL FOLLOWED...



SOMEHOW SHE *REACHED* IT, WRENCHED  
THE RECEIVER TOWARD HER WITH COLD-  
NUMBED, TREMBLING FINGERS... HARDLY  
DARING TO *WORE* ANYMORE...



SWIFTLY SHE DIALED THE *HIGHWAY  
PATROL*, ONE RING AN ANSWER...

... THEN SHE OPENED HER  
MOUTH TO *SPEAK*...



AND REALIZED THAT THE *PAINS* HAD HAD NOTHING TO DO  
WITH THE RUNNING OR WINTER AIR. SOMEWHERE BEHIND  
HER... SHE HEARD THE *MOVEMENTS* AGAIN.



THEY CAME, TOUCHING HER, EMBRACING HER, TENDRILS  
TWISTED, TWINED... AND HANNA FELT A SENSE OF MELD-  
ING, OF SELF DISAPPEARING INTO SOMETHING LARGER,  
VAGUER.

AND AS HER OWN CONSCIOUSNESS BEGAN  
TO FADE, SHE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING,  
SOMETHING ALMOST SILLY... THE ATSS.



THE KISS THAT HAD SEEMED TO  
LEAD TO NOTHING HAD AT LAST  
MADE HER ONE WITH NOEL,  
STEWART, NOEL... AND MORE.

BUT THAT WAS WINTER. IT IS SUMMER NOW.  
AND STORM HARBOR, MAINE, AND BELLOCK  
HOUSE IN PARTICULAR, SPARKLE UNDER FRESH  
COATS OF PAINT AND WARM BRILLIANT SUNLIGHT.



THE COLD MONTHS, THE RAINY  
SPRINGS, HAVE BEEN SPENT  
PREPARING, SPREADING WORD  
OF THE TOWN AND ITS CHARMING  
GUEST HOUSE... MAKING ALL  
IN READINESS...



- FOR THE GREATEST TOURIST  
SEASON EVER!

END









**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA POSTER**  
All of Galactica's characters on one awesome full color poster to fill your room! The ships, the people, the robots & the planet!  
\$29.95/US \$3



**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA POSTER**  
The full color poster of the Cylon fleet attacking the crew of the Cygnus in the harbor! Under the vision, pending approval!  
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# COLOR, READ, WEAR, & HANG THEM!

## A NEW COLLECTION FROM THE MOVIE BATTLESTAR GALACTICA



### PEN-N-POSTER

This glorious black & white 10 1/2" x 13 1/2" poster comes with three full-color color pens plus a 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of colored paper for free ideas! Full assembly required on one included in this set!  
\$69.95/US \$9



### PEN-N-POSTER

Two glorious 10 1/2" x 13 1/2" posters to select and write that come with 3 color pens to tell your stories for future in coloring! Full assembly required on one included in this set! The Battlestar, a Cylon ship, the Cygnus and the USS Cygnus. The most exciting and amazing action movie! Includes 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of paper to tell your story! Full assembly required on one included in this set!  
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## BATTLESTAR GALACTICA IRON-ONS



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A special new iron-on from Battlestar Galactica! This new iron-on displays the Galactica, the 12 smaller ships, and the Cylon fleet! Includes 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of paper to tell your story!  
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## TWO NEW ACTION-PACKED SOFT-COVER BOOKS!



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Includes 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of paper to tell your story!  
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**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA IRON-ON**  
Includes 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of paper to tell your story!  
\$29.95/US \$3



**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA IRON-ON**  
Includes 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of paper to tell your story!  
\$29.95/US \$3



**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA IRON-ON**  
Includes 11" x 13 1/2" sheet of paper to tell your story!  
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# STAR WARS MAIL ORDER STORE

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C-3 PO MASK



C-3PO MASK! Soft vinyl full over the head, hand painted, gleaming gold mask. C-3PO! \$29.95/\$29.95

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STORMTROOPER MASK! Shining white, vinyl plastic mask with black through plastic eyes. \$29.95/\$29.95

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DARTH VADER MASK! Shining black, vinyl plastic full-head mask of the evil Jedi's face. \$29.95/\$29.95



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### STAR WARS FULL COLOR POSTER

THE SWORD POSTER Paste this big 20"x26" poster on the wall for inspiration. A painting by Hildebrandt, it has Luke & Leia rendered in golden hues with a formidable Darth Vader glowering from the sky. C-3PO & R2D2 are there! Full color! \$29.95/\$29.95



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C-3PO & LUKE

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\$27.53 BOYS 10/\$24.75  
\$27.54 BOYS 14/\$24.75  
\$27.55 MENS SMALL/\$24.95



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**TWO NOBLES BEACH TOWEL** Rest easy at the beach with C-3PO and R2-D2. Robot figures printed in full color on 100% cotton velour background. (small) hemmed and metal grom. 51" x 90". \$22.99/21.99



**BARTH VADER BEACH TOWEL** This fabulous 100% cotton 51" x 90" hemmed beach towel sports Darth Vader's image surrounded by attacking his fighters and Star Wars logo. Full color. \$22.99/21.99

# NEW! NEW! NEW!

# STAR WARS GOODIES!

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Focus of Luke, Leia, Han Solo, Chewbacca, C-3PO, Chewbacca, Darth Vader, Old Man Kenobi. This up-to-date toothbrush is assembled up 8 down brush action makes it a winner. It's not just a toothbrush, it's a Star Wars! \$1.99/1.49

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Get out under the stars and into Star Wars with this new synthetic floor filled sleeping bag! Unzips into a colorful reversible 54" x 86" vinyl liner. Washable and has vinyl foot! \$22.99/21.99

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Green of colorful long ago and far, far away on this colorful blue, white and gold, washable pillowcase which features dramatic scenes with Luke, Han Threeplo, Artoo-Detoo, Princess Leia, Chewbacca and Darth Vader! There is one pillowcase per package and they fit any normal size pillow superbly! \$2.99/2.49



## STAR WARS CANTINA POSTER

**STAR WARS CANTINA POSTER** Quantity 20" x 28" full color poster of that star also just back—the Deluxed 51" Fresh from an authentic engagement in Star Wars a—r—n—t the universe, not to mention the Star Wars Cantina, these beautiful pipe are playing in their alien lands which include the Hammerhead, a Maltese Man, a Greedo & many, many more. The stars here come out in play of full! \$2.99/2.49

## STAR WARS BLANKET

Get the little blanket you with warmth! New, colorful, acrylic blanket features all your favorite Star Wars characters such as Luke, Leia, all your rebel heroes (Han Threeplo and Artoo-Detoo), Han Solo, Darth Vader, X-wing and T-14 fighters, the Death Star and the Star Wars logo! It's blue, gold, and white made on softest pique, star striped blanket that is washable, colorful, durable and easy to care for. No Star Wars sleep in complete without this terrific blanket! \$22.99/21.99

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